

Post 5/30/65

Clinton Hits Both Sides' Extremism

Sir Patrick Henry Dean, British Ambassador to the United States, attacked Communist extremism, anti-Communist extremism and nationalist extremism in a speech at the Capitol in Williamsburg, Va., yesterday.

Sir Patrick spoke on the eve of the 200th anniversary of the Virginia House of Burgesses' debate in which Patrick Henry denounced the British Stamp Act tax.

Citing the universal nature of the colonists' demand for "Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness" for "all men," Sir Patrick argued that "two very easy ways to answer (the) question" of how such ends are to be achieved claim for themselves absolute authority.

The Communist International, the ambassador said, takes it for granted that it will some day "unite the human race" and that "all those who believe in communism, irrespective of their numbers and of any other democratic considerations, will prevail by persuasion, or by force, over those

who do not."

But equally dangerous, Sir Patrick submitted, is the "cold war concept" that sees "the world as divided into two groups composed of capitalist or free nations on the one hand and Communist or totalitarian states on the other, each competing and struggling for victory over the other."

He warned that this view, when held by capitalist countries, misleads by assuming that all blows against communism are blows struck for Jeffersonian democracy. With its talk of final victory over the forces of evil, he said, it becomes "less adequate every day either to explain what is happening in many far-off places or to help us decide how to meet the many different problems of the modern world."

Finally, Sir Patrick, maintaining that increasing nuclear proliferation involves all countries in common needs attacked "ultra nationalism."

Calling for a "humanistic international society" based on enlightened tenets and the flexibility of political sophistication, Sir Patrick concluded:

"It would be grim indeed if we had perforce to choose among the extremes of a world united under international communism, a world sharply divided by the cold war and a world forever embroiled by the operations of unrestrained nationalism."